11. Nagercoil
12. Pudukottai
13. Ramanathapuram
14. Salem
15. Sivaganga
16. Thanjavur
17. Theni
18. Tiruchy
19. Tirunelveli
20. Tiruvannamalai
21. Tuticorin
22. Vellore
23. Villupuram
24. Virudhunagar

Speed Post booking facilities are also available in the following District Headquarters 1. Tiruvarur, 2. Namakkal, 3. Perambalur, 4. Udagamandalam.

(b) The only District Headquarters without Speed Post Service is Tiruvellore. This District came into existence very recently. Speed Post Service is extended to the places/District Headquarters if it is economically viable and operationally feasible.

Phone on Demand

25. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'phone on demand to remain a dream' appearing in the "Indian Express" dated January 10, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Telecom. Policy 1994 envisages provision of telephone connections on demand by 1997 with Private Sector supplementing the efforts of Department of Telecommunications. However, there has been a delay in the entry of the Private Sector in the field of basic services and thus the objective of providing telephone on demand by 1997 was not possible. Department of Telecommunications has submitted 9th Five Year Plan Proposals to the planning Commission for approval which envisages to provide telephone on demand during 9th Five Year Plan with Private Sector supplementing the efforts of the Government.

Agreement with Germany on MoU to Telecom

26. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Germany have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on telecom recently;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions involved therein;

(c) whether any agreement has been made in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASASD VARMA): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, Government of India and Federal Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of the Federal Republic of Germany have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding on 2nd September 1997 for co-operation in the field of Telecommunications.

The Memorandum of Understanding seeks to develop the ongoing technical and scientific co-operation to ensure the improvement and development of new communications technology. The specific areas of co-operation are (1) Regulation, (2) Standardisation, (3) Management of

the Radio Frequency Spectrum, (4) Co-operation between manufacturers and operators, (5) Partnership with the Industry, service providers and research institutes etc., (6) Co-operation within the frame work of International organisations and (7) Exchange of expertise and consultations.

This Memorandum of Understanding which is in force from the date of signature shall continue to remain in force unless terminated by either side by giving six months notice in writing of its intention to terminate.

रक्षा आधुनिकीकरण के लिए संसाधनों की तंगी

27. **प्रो० विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या थल सेनाध्यक्ष जनरल शंकर राय चौधरी ने संवाददाताओं से हुई बातचीत में कहा है कि संसाधनों की तंगी के कारण भारतीय सेनाओं के आधुनिकीकरण तथा इसके लिए नवीनतम हथियार खरीदने पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ा है;

(ख) क्या समाचार एजेंसी "भाषा" द्वारा संवाददाताओं से उनकी बातचीत का ब्यौरा दिया गया है जिसके अनुसार संसाधनों की तंगी का असर नौसेना व वायुसेना पर भी पड़ रहा है यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है; और

(ग) सेना के लिए संसाधनों की कमी को दूर करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव): (क) से (ग) समाचार पत्र की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार यह ब्यान पूर्व सेनाध्यक्ष द्वारा दिया गया है। तथापि, सरकार सशस्त्र सेनाओं के आधुनिकीकरण कार्यक्रम के प्रति वचनबद्ध है जो कि एक सतत प्रतिक्रिया है। आधुनिकीकरण तथा दर्जा बढ़ाए जाने के कार्यक्रम को इस प्रकार चलाया जाता है ताकि संसाधनों का इष्टतम उपयोग हो तथा हमारे स्वदेशीकरण की क्षमताओं एवं रक्षा उत्पादन ढांचे का अधिकतम उपयोग हो सके। सशस्त्र सेनाओं के लिए आधुनिकीकरण योजनाओं के वास्ते समग्र संसाधन उपलब्धता के भीतर आवश्यक धनराशि की व्यवस्था की जाती है।

Violation of PPE Act 1971 by the Estate Officer of Defence

28. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the outcome of violations, if any, indulged in by the Estate Officer of Defence establishments, with regard to the procedure outlined in PPE Act 1971 (Public Premises Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants, Act, 1971)?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): Estates Officers are notificed by the Government under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. They function in a quasi judicial capacity. If there are any violations of law/procedure by the Estates Officers, the law provides for appeal against the orders of the Estates Officer under section 9 of the aforesaid Act before the District Judge. No specific case of violations indulged by the Estates Officer has been reported to the

अलग-अलग भाषा माध्यमों से विद्यार्थियों की राष्ट्रीय रक्षा अकादमी में भर्ती

29. **श्री के० आर० मलकानी:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान राष्ट्रीय रक्षा अकादमी में शामिल होने वाले अंग्रेजी माध्यम के विद्यार्थियों की प्रतिशतता क्या है; और

(ख) उपरोक्त अवधि के दौरान हिंदी, तमिल, मराठी, बंगला आदि माध्यमों के कितने प्रतिशत विद्यार्थी राष्ट्रीय रक्षा अकादमी में शामिल हुए हैं?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव): (क) 98.5%

(ख) 1.5%

Imported specialised alloy smuggled to Pakistan

30. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: